

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

12. (new) A basal finger joint implant, wherein the implant is an uncoupled, two-part implant, wherein said implant comprises spherical sliding surfaces.

13. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 12, wherein the implant consists of two monolithic compounds, the proximal component consisting of the hollow-ball-shaped socket bearing with the proximal shaft, and the distal component, consisting of a ball which is mounted in the socket bearing and is implanted in the finger bone by means of the distal shaft.

14. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 13, wherein said spherical sliding surfaces are congruent, one of which is the hollow-ball-shaped socket bearing and the other of which is the surface of the ball.

15. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 14, wherein the bearing surface of the socket bearing extends beyond the equatorial plane as protection against luxation.

16. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 15, wherein adduction is ensured by a cutout, which is suitable for movement, in the proximal component, and, on full extension of the phalanges, abduction/adduction of up to +/- 30 angular degrees is possible.

17. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 16, wherein, as flexion increases, in other words as bending of the finger increases, the guidance of the distal shaft is designed in such a manner that both abduction and adduction are increasingly restricted.

18. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 17, which consists entirely of ceramic.

19. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 18, which consists entirely of aluminum oxide ceramic.

20. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 19, wherein the proximal shaft and the distal shaft have a coating which promotes bone ingrowth, or osteointegration.
21. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 20, wherein the coating promoting bone ingrowth is hydroxyapatite.
22. (new) The basal finger joint implant as claimed in claim 20, wherein the proximal shaft and the distal shaft have a porous structure which promotes bone ingrowth, or osteointegration.